

Memo

To: AAA Board Members
From: Greg Bykowski
Date: January 11, 2024
Re: Monthly Board Meeting Notes – January

The Avonworth Athletic Association Board met on January 11, 2024 at the Cabin at Acord Park at 8:00 PM

JANUARY 2024 MONTHLY MEETING

Attendance:

All members were in attendance except the following: Barnes, Milsom, & Cole.

Meeting Called to Order: 8:16 PM

- October's meeting minutes approved [Graff / Jamison]
- November's meeting minutes did not get distributed through SportsConnect. Bykowski to send out again.

President's Report: Shipley

- Review of annual calendar
- Little League International meeting discussion
 - Insurance renewed the same coverages as last year
 - General / Crime / and three other coverages
 - Charter was renewed
 - New district (PA District 26) with Ingomar, QV, Shaler, Latrobe, & others
 - Tournaments are available for every age group (8U to 12U)
 - District, Section, State, Regional
 - Ingomar won district, but lost to West Point in Sections
 - West Point got blown out
 - Can't participate in tournaments at the same time. This happens at the same time as typical tournaments

- State tournament can be pushed due to weather.
- July 1st through July 7th. Hosted at Ingomar possibly. All age levels.
- District tournament of champions
 - In-house champions move onto other tournaments
- Abuse training for ALL volunteers might be mandatory. Similar to USA Hockey's training

Financial Report: Wilmus

- December Financial Report
 - **\$36,060** in operating fund as of 12/31/23
 - Previous month (10/31): **\$37,189** [Net change: **\$1.1k**]
 - Deposits: \$8.5k
 - Withdrawals: \$9.6k
 - **\$21,836** in capital fund as of 12/31/23
 - Previous month: **\$21,835** [Net change: **\$0k**]
 - Deposits: \$0k
 - Withdrawals: \$0k
 - **\$57,896** is the total ending balance on 12/31/23.
 - Motion to move \$10k from Operating to Capital unanimously approved [Jamison / Waters]
 - Mr. John will continue to be our portable toilet vendor.
 - A \$10k surplus exists in the Venmo account (@AvonworthAA). Gallucci & Wilmus working to transfer the money into the organization's account.
 - Two sponsor payments have not been received (Willow-\$1200 & Linhart-\$800).
 - Additional information can be found in the Monthly Financial Report

VP On-Field: Gallucci

- Sunday League
 - 8U coaches were unanimously approved
 - 4 players did not make the team
 - Reck for 8U Red [Ludwig / Acierno]
 - Mangene for 8U White [Gilbert / Acierno]
 - Team registration for the league will be communicated
- Coaches meeting might get trimmed down
- Meeting might happen 3/5 to 3/7
- Opening Day might be 4/13
 - Week before might be for more practices
- Would like to improve the evaluation process
 - T-Ball needs to be improved
 - Needs to be summarized before the February meeting (2/8)
 - Committee:
 - Paul Gilbert

- Kyle Brown
 - Todd Wilmus
 - Chris Shipley
 - Jim Graff
- Registration signs will be moved to the bottom of the shed.
 - Cobblestone Circle
 - Northridge
 - Giant Eagle
 - Corner of Grandview & Joseph's Lane
 - Other locations
- By-Laws Committee
 - Bykowski - Chair
 - Acierno
 - Garver
 - Others?

VP Off-Field: Graff

- \$2000 gift cards were collected from Dick's
- March 8th to 10th is the official Dick's Day at Cranberry & McCandless
- Online store generated \$158
 - 79 items sold. \$2 made per item.
- Sponsorships out last week
 - \$8,500 generated thus far
 - Ends March 1st or 2nd
 - Facilities are being sold again
- Memorial Day
 - Kim Gallucci & Susan Basista will be Memorial Day Coordinators with Jim.
 - GPSA has a storefront that might have different ideas for merchandise.
 - Memorial Day Committee Meeting
 - Monthly meetings will be sent out.
 - **List of Committee members needs to be developed**
- Pictures
 - Might be Opening Day
 - In front of
 - Possibly Friday before. Jim to check with Kim Ifft

Concessions: Gallucci

- No update

Registration: Acierno

- Some players need to accept their spots on the teams
- Peachtree registration information was received from Cavanaugh
 - Cost is \$100
- Summer tournament registration will probably

Equipment: Cole

- Tarps for the LL Field have been received.
- (100) dozen 100 LL logo balls have been received by A.D. Starr. The balls will be stored at their facility until the spring. The Dick's gift cards (\$2,000 worth) will be applied to the invoice. Wilmus will issue payment for the balance of the invoice.
- Equipment needs to be replaced
 - ML Catchers Gear and PONY Gear will need to be purchased next season
 - Waters suggests having a set of community gear for IL.
- Better control of baseballs
 - Provide two dozen balls to the coaches and make sure that they return them?
 - Commissioners: Reiterate that slightly used game balls should be reused in the next game.
- IL Field: Mini-metal drag needs to be purchased. Possibly replace with a rubber drag

Uniforms: Milsom

- Basic Sunday League uniform. Nothing fancy. Not being used for Summer
- Better jersey will be used for Summer
- 4-6 week lead time for jerseys
 - Therefore, might have to move up selection
- Travel uniforms
 - Manufacturer wants to correct the issue, not Milsom's contact.
 - Milsom needs to request a full money refund from the vendor for the material delivered in August.
 - We can pay for the jerseys that were received on time.
 - Coaches will be surveyed to determine what jerseys were delivered late.
 - 11U-B team jerseys were received. Since there was no team, they probably need to be refunded.
 - Some jerseys are still sitting in the shed
 - Group is in support of the circle logo on the chest. Might stick with it in the Spring

Field Maintenance: Geiger (Shipleigh updated)

- Spring Clean-Up Days might be 3/9 & 3/16
- Lawn Care contract [Barnyak / Waters]
 - \$4,300 for the year. This includes a discount for prepay
- Tarps were purchased for LL, but not ML.
- Supplies will need to be purchased next year
- Committee:
 - Shipleigh would love to have a group of 20 people

- Commissioners should send a message out to the coaches to ask for volunteers
- Old business:
 - Laser grading program
 - IL during the following session (April 2024??? Not during Easter Weekend)
 - LL was the most recent laser grading (in April 2023)
 - ML was in 2022

Web Site/Surveys/Player Evals: Garver

- Updated pictures

Umpires: Jamison

- Prices are going up.
 - Jamison will send pricing for 2022 & 2023
- Contract with PUA needs to be signed
- NOTE: PUA requires that all umpires have clearances to work for PUA.

Travel Coordinator: Jamison

- January 29th to March 22nd
- Monday: 7-9
- Tuesday: 5-6 (only day that was open) & 8-9
- Wednesday: 6-9
- Thursday: 8-9
- Friday: None
- Open training session (\$10 per session)
 - Two separate four week sessions
 - Might provide flexibility
 - 15 people maximum
 - Possibly create a catcher's program
 - Jamison might be available
 - Can we get the high school & middle school group to support?
 - Extra training for personnel who have not signed up for Sunday League
 - IL, ML, & LL only
 - Need to have people to perform the instruction
- Sunday League future?
 - Shipley will send Ludwig contact information
 - Would like to get this finalized by February meeting
 - Tournament should be planned. Hopefully, Avonworth can host a few.
 - Ludwig working on the Facebook blast from last year
 - Looking for the email addresses from last year
 - Need to compile from the previous head coaches
 - Look for \$150 per team

Clearances: Brown

- Cleaned the records
- 35 coaches are registered for Sunday & Spring Leagues / 4 need to be updated or registered.
- Needs to make sure that unregistered coaches are included.
- Commissioners need to help with compliance
- The Board is aware of the issues with some expired clearances. The board is working to correct the problems.

League Reports:

- T-Ball – Picard
 - No update
- IL – Waters
 - No update
- ML – Shipley / Gallucci
 - No update
- LL – Bykowski
 - North Hills and Quaker Valley are interested in participating
- PONY – Fasy Greevy
 - League schedule meeting might be at the end of February. Fasy is working on this.
 - 12 games in fall
 - 16 teams in spring for Moon League
 - Winter session would be an option
 - Would need to have registration open up
 - Would need to be 1st 15 kids who registered
 - Would probably be \$120 per kid for 8 sessions
 - T.O. has a 12U group that are not signed up to another
- Colt
 - No fall baseball

Other News / New Business:

- New topics:
 - Solution to Travel Teams (presented by T.O. Alberts)
 - Offer an option for higher intensity
 - Traditional vs. Advanced
 - To be determined after Summer Season
 - Full year selection process.
 - To be selected ahead of Pay-to-Play teams are selected.
 - Two ML & two LL teams
 - Not sure if IL is ready for this
 - 10 training sessions (possibly in the winter)
 - AAA coaches will supervise practices, but Diesel Sports Complex would run the training

- Coaches will still coach the games
 - Still planning on playing in community-based tournaments
 - \$700 per player (estimated by T.O.)
 - T.O. to provide detail of what is included in this cost.
 - Saturdays have light attendance
 - Might merge teams for a scrimmage
 - Treat it as an “all-star game” feel.
 - Host a community / traditional team tournament
 - Players who don’t make the team, we could provide an “alternate” option
 - Check the notes for the annual meeting
 - Include T.O. Alberts
 - This discussion needs to be ongoing throughout the year up to the registration discussion.
 - Schedule might be Spring / Summer
 - Will there be any language in the agreement about Steel City taking AAA players?
 - Has the potential to bring people back
 - Possibly host a travel tournament
 - Committee needs to be put together by February
 - Bykowski
 - Wilmus
 - Alberts
 - Brown
 - Ludwig
 - Waters
 - Provide an update during January’s meeting
 - Schedule recurring meetings
 - Still need to determine what to do with Saturday games during this Spring Season
- Fundraising:
 - Ludwig generated \$3,850 of fundraising for his volunteering opportunities through his BNY Mellon employment. Check has not been received.
- Old topics:
 - Sunday League Status???
 - Provides extra opportunities for competitive
 - “Pay to Play” teams may affect participation in the spring
 - Decisions need to be made soon
 - The decision on the Winter Trainings needs to happen as soon as possible. This provides 6-9 additional practices
 - All community organizations are having this issue

- Determine what percentage of players in each division / age group will be involved
 - The solution for the 11U & 12U might not be the same as the solution 7U & 8U teams
- Travel Ball decisions
 - Better instruction by “professionals”
 - Number of reps / number of games / number of opportunities
 - Play all year long. Therefore, possibly consider full-year commitment to families
- Travel Ball solutions / options
 - Solutions need to be determined on an “age division” basis
 - Participation in “pay to play” varies by age group. The solution for the 8U group might not be the solution for the 11U group.
 - Option 1: Provide games on M-H
 - Missing Saturday revenue
 - Does it affect Memorial Day?
 - Fennell does not schedule tournaments during Memorial Day weekend
 - Not all organizations leave Memorial Day open
 - Schedule tournaments for Avonworth travel teams
 - Avonworth will still provide a Summer Tournament Team in this scenario
 - Option 2: Provide games on M-H & Saturday evening
 - Avonworth will still provide a Summer Tournament Team in this scenario
 - Option 3: Provide games Monday through Saturday morning / afternoon
 - Winter workouts could be open to ANY registrations for the 11U & 12U
 - Provide special instruction during those sessions
 - Need to make a decision on Winter Workouts soon.
- Winter workouts by high school coaches? Is this possible per PIAA rules?
- Would other options for fields be an option?

Meeting Adjourned: 9:47 PM [Jamison/Ludwig]

Monthly Meeting Attendance Record - 2023 / 2024

Members	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
Date	9/14	10/11	11/9	N/A	1/11	2/8						
Time	8:30	8:30	7:00	N/A	8:00	8:00						
Chris Shipley (President / ML Commisioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Jim Graff (VP Off Field/ MDT Chair)	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Mike Gallucci (VP On Field/ ML Commish / Concessions, MDT Committee)	Y	N	Y		Y							
Todd Wilmus (Treasurer)	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Greg Bykowski (Recording Secretary/LL Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Brad Barnes (MDT Committee)	Y	Y	Y		N							
Brad Cole (Equipment)	Y	Y	Y		N							
Mike Jamison (Umpires / Travel Team Coordinator)	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Eric Garver (Website/Surveys/Player evals)	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Tony Geiger (Field Maintenance Coordinator)	Y	Y	N		N							
Justin Acierno (Registrations)	Y	N	N		Y							
Nate Milsom (Uniforms)	Y	Y	Y		N							
Jon Capo ()	Y	N	N		N							
Mike Ludwig ()	N	Y	Y		Y							
Kyle Brown (Clearances)	N	Y	Y		Y							
Bob Waters (IL Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Brian Picard (T-Ball Commissioner)	Y	Y	N		Y							
Paul Gilbert ()	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Jeff Barnyak ()	Y	Y	Y		Y							